

## NEWS RELEASE

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## JENNIFER LANE WINS SBA'S 2003 WOMEN IN BUSINESS ADVOCATE AWARD

**BOSTON** – Jennifer Lane, president of New England Women Business Owners, and principal of Wellesley Hills-based Compass Planning Associates, LLC, has been named the 2003 Massachusetts Women in Business Advocate by the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) according to an announcement made by Elaine Guiney, Massachusetts SBA Director.

The Women in Business Advocate award is presented annually to an individual who has fulfilled a commitment to the advancement of women's business ownership. Lane was nominated for this award by Sidrah R. Jackson, Vice President, Women Entrepreneurs' Connection.

"The SBA Advocate awards honor the best small business has to offer, and Jennifer Lane is an outstanding choice," said SBA Regional Administrator Jeffrey Butland. "This is an outstanding testimonial, not only to her accomplishments, but to her commitment and dedication to small business success and community service as well. I join my SBA colleagues in congratulating Jennifer on this significant achievement."

After a first career as a commercial pilot, Jennifer founded Compass Planning Associates to equip women, in particular, to steer their own financial courses. Jennifer's volunteer efforts serve community organizations that empower women, including: New England Women Business Owners, a business organization that helps emerging business owners build contacts for growth, where Jennifer is president; Womankind, a financial literacy non-profit where Jennifer serves on the board and facilitates classes; and the Center for Women and Enterprise, where she leads courses that prepare entrepreneurs for the rigors of small-business ownership. She is also New England Cable News' weekly personal finance commentator and an author.

"Jennifer Lane exemplifies the talent, business savvy, vision, and commitment required to be a recognized leader in the New England business arena," said SBA Director Guiney. "Since taking office as the president of New England Women Business Owners in 2002, Jennifer has launched significant changes that have re-energized the organization and expanded NEWBO's scope, presence and influence."

Lane will be honored at an awards luncheon at the Boston Marriott Copley Place at noontime on September 12, 2003. The Massachusetts Small Business Person of the Year, Holly Safford, President of The Catered Affair in Hingham, will be honored along with other small business advocates from throughout the commonwealth. The event is open to the public and those interested in attending should contact Christine Carter at SBA at 617-565-5560.

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For more information about all of the SBA's programs for small businesses, call the SBA Answer Desk at 1-800 U ASK SBA or TDD 704-344-6640, or locally at 617-565-5590 or visit the SBA's extensive Web site at http://www.sba.gov.